The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occuring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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THIS CAMPAIGN IS YOUR FIGHT! ARE YOU IN IT?

Success for the non-partisan political campaign of the American Federation of Labor offers to the American people their only opportunity to rid themselves of congressional reaction. It is their only chance to put progress into congress.

We have seen what it means to have reaction enthroned in the senate and house. We have seen too much of it.

We have paid the penalty.

We have had the high cost of living—we still have it. We have had the Cummins-Esch railroad bill—it is with us today. We have had congressional encouragement of the methods of Palmer and Burleson. We have had a high and lofty defiance of the masses of the people, a finished product of the oligarchical mind if ever there was one.

We have had too many abuses to catalog here. Get and read the literature published by the A. F. of L. national non-partisan political campaign committee.

* * *

By their records you shall know them. That is the heart of the non-partisan campaign.

Records count. Promises are no good unless there are faithful records of service back of them. Flim-flam is worthless in this fight.

Likewise, we are not looking at party labels. The workers are organized to support faithful candidates, regardless of labels.

It gets no man anything now to call himself Democrat or Republican and expect votes for that. It's the record that turns the scales. It's the record that counts. WHAT DOES THE RECORD SAY?

Millions of men and women are organized and organizing to work and vote for honesty and progress in political life.

They intend to vote on FACTS.

Woe to the candidate who tries to cover a shady record with bunk and hokum.

No counterfeit passes this time!

* * *

No political movement in American life has developed more enthusiasm than labor's great struggle of 1920.

That is because it is an honest movement of the masses for truth and justice and democratic progress.

That is why it takes literature by the millions of pieces to supply the demand.

That is why bands of four-minute speakers are taking the field everywhere.

That is why politicians are worried.

Every American worker has a stake in this campaign. No American worker can afford to withhold his share of effort.

Get into the campaign. Get into the fight. It is as big in the village as in the city, as vital to the country as to the metropolis.

It is everybody's fight for a government that will represent the American people all the way through.

That kind of a fight is too big and too good for any worker to stay out of!

LABOR MUST FINANCE ITS NON-PARTISAN CAMPAIGN

Washington, Aug. 14.—"Literature has been and is being distributed by the hundreds of thousands of pieces; the demands exceed the supply," says the A. F. of L. national non-partisan political campaign committee, in a circular to members of organized labor on the need for financial contributions to carry on the trade union non-partisan campaign.

"Already fruits of the struggle have been harvested," says the national committee. "Enemies have been defeated; friends have been assisted.

"Ninety-six thousand votes were cast against Senator Cummins in his own party primary. Senator Underwood escaped in the primary of his party with only a handful of votes. Normally these men would have enormous pluralities.

"In other states and congressional districts there have been clean-cut victories for labor and progress.

"And now we reach a state where additional financial help must be had. The amount of money received and expended thus far is surprisingly small—out of all proportion to the work done and the results achieved.

"The initial request was for but a nominal amount. The response was all that was expected.

"But the work goes on. Time flies. The crisis approaches. We are headed into the current of the main campaign. Our effort must increase with each day. The army of volunteers must be supplied with material. The voters must be informed.

"Organizations of workers and individuals are asked to contribute now and with as much generosity as may be possible. The struggle cannot be postponed; it is on and we must make our fight now.

"Contribute today. Help in the spirit of the fight for human freedom and progress.

"Send all contributions to Frank Morrison, A. F. of L. building, Washington, D. C., who will receipt for same. At the close of the campaign an itemized statement of all of the receipts and expenditures will be printed and forwarded to each contributor."

It is expected that the response to the above appeal will accord with labor's nation-wide enthusiasm and determination to defeat its enemies and elect friends. This enthusiasm is not of the torch-light parade variety, but is of the kind indicated by a committeeman from one of the southwestern states, where nomination is equivalent to election, who informed the national committee that in their recent primaries they "only" nominated the county judge, county treasurer, the state senator and two members of the state legislature who are pledged to legislation that harmonizes with American ideals.

"The 'boys' are not discouraged, however, and they are determined to clean the slate next time," said this writer, who indicated that the unionists of that county are after 100 per cent results.

This enthusiasm is also shown by labor's demand for literature. Bundles of literature on various questions are given wide circulation by the national committee. Distribution of the pamphlet by President Gompers, entitled "Labor's Protest Against a Rampant Tragedy," which treats of profiteering, and labor's remedy for same, is now reaching the half-million mark.

It is this enthusiasm and determination that justifies the national committee in its statement:

"This is a great struggle for the rights and liberties of the masses of our people—a struggle for the triumph of justice."

TRICKY ALLEN EXPOSED.

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 14.—Kansas trade unionists are enraged at Governor Allen's publication of an indorsement of his "can't-strike" law, signed by an alleged A. F. of L. organizer, just before the recent primaries. The indorsement was signed by A. L. Fleming, "A. F. of L. organiser." It is now shown that Fleming is not an A. F. of L. organizer, and it is also stated that he is not a member of organized labor.

Fleming says he signed a letter in the governor's office that he (Fleming) did not write. Later, Fleming said, he received a letter from the governor stating that he "had taken the privilege to add a few paragraphs or make a few additions."

"The governor, I feel, has taken undue advantage of me in having this letter published," concludes Fleming, in a signed statement. "He had no authority from me to publish this letter in newspapers. I have written the governor telling him not to use my name on any literature or to quote me in any way whatever. I have no desire for further relations wth Governor Allen."

U. S. PROTECTS CO-OPS.

Washington, Aug. 14.—Secretary of Agriculture Meredith has ordered seven Chicago commission houses to abandon excessive charges on co-operative shipments of live stock. The commission men have been charging more to sell a shipment of cattle owned by co-operative farmers, than if owned by individuals. Secretary Meredith ordered that this practice be discontinued and a uniform charge be made.

The government has this power as commission men are required to take out a federal license and be subject to rules by the government in the conduct of their business.

NON-UNION GIRLS STRIKE.

Joplin, Mo., Aug. 14.—When the McKee-Marks cigar factory located in this city the management announced that this concern would not be "dictated to by labor agitators" and that employes would bargain individually.

The non-union plan has failed to work, however, and unorganized girls employed as cigar makers have walked out of the plant. They say it is impossible to live on a wage that ranges from $2.50 to $6 a week.

DEATHS IN BUILDING.

Olympia, Wash., Aug. 14.—The state safety board reports that last year there were 355 non-fatal and 82 fatal accidents in the building industries in this state. Falling lumber, timber, etc., caused 96 non-fatal accidents, and was the leading cause. Falls from ladders, scaffolds, platforms, etc., caused 44 fatal deaths and was the leading cause.

LABOR'S ACTIVITY WORRIES.

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 14.—Labor's non-partisan activity is worrying politicians, who are having their slates smashed by workers taking an active part in the primaries. A movement has been started to abolish the primary system and return to the convention method, and the workers are now pledging candidates for the legislature against the proposal.

AUTO WORKERS UNITING.

Yonkers, N. Y., Aug. 14.—An organizing campaign among auto mechanics in this county has been started. There are more than 2,000 of these workers eligible to membership in the new union.

MORE COAL PRODUCED.

Washington, Aug. 14.—A report by the United States geological survey on coal mined the past year refutes the claim that mine workers are responsible for present coal prices.

Despite a decrease in production of 1,522,000 tons as compared with the previous week, due to strikes in Illinois and Indiana, the end of July found bituminous production, since the beginning of the year, to be 202,727,000 tons, an increase of 44,500,000 tons over the amount mined up to July 31 last year.

Anthracite coal was also produced in greater quantity, reaching 50,575,000 tons on July 31 of this year, as compared with 47,307,000 tons at the end of July, 1919.

The survey reports that the car situation at the end of July showed "no widespread improvement," and coal shipments for export during the last week of July made a new record for an amount of cars of coal handled.

NAVY WORKERS WANT MORE.

Washington, Aug. 14.—Approximately 70,000 navy yard employes have filed rate schedules with the new navy yard wage board which range around an increase of 25 cents a day. This board supercedes the old plan of having wages set by local boards, composed of naval officers. For years the workers have insisted on civilian representation, and in the present case they are represented by Secretary A. J. Berres of the A. F. of L. metal trades department. The decision of the board will be passed upon by the secretary of the navy. The work of the board to ascertain a living wage for employes is handicapped by reduced appropriations which the last congress made for these yards.

LABOR DEMAND LESSENS.

Boston, Aug. 14.—Not since July, 1915, has there been such a decrease in the demand for workers, according to the July report of the Massachusetts state public employment office. The demands for that month decreased 25 per cent from the previous month.

The shut down of many textile, boot and shoe factories increased applications for employment, but many of these applicants, it is said, were unable to stand the strenuous work in ship yards, etc.

BUT ARE PRICES AFFECTED?

Washington, Aug. 14.—A total of 151 convictions have been obtained in the anti-profiteering campaign of the department of justice, according to a statement issued by that department. Since the campaign started 1,854 arrests have been made and 1,402 indictments returned.

FAVOR NON-UNIONISM.

New Orleans, Aug. 14.—The Sign and Pictorial Painters' union is facing a non-union shop fight. Employers agree that "unions are all right," but the employers want the sole right to set wages, hours and working conditions, through individual bargaining.

FLINTS RAISE WAGES.

Atlantic City, N. J., Aug. 14.—Representatives of the American Flint Glass Workers' union and glass manufacturers have agreed to substantial wage increases.

WAGE GAINS IN SOUTH.

Spartanburg, S. C., Aug. 14.—As the result of negotiation carpenters raised wages to 90 cents an hour and bricklayers to $1.25.

RUSSIAN POLICY OF U. S.

Washington, Aug. 14.—In a note to the Italian ambassador in this city Secretary of State Colby outlines the policy of the government of the United States toward Russia.

Secretary Colby states, in effect, that this country is not in sympathy with the allies' plans to erect small nations out of Russian territory and then enter into treaties with them for purposes of exploiting the resources of these sections. The historic friendship for the Russian peoples will be maintained but the bolshevist regime will not be recognized because of its rejection of international standards and pledges. The point is also made that the bolshevists do not represent a majority of the Russian people.

"The United States maintains unimpaired its faith in the Russian people, in their high character and their future," says Secretary Colby. "That they will overcome the existing anarchy, suffering and destitution we do not entertain the slightest doubt. The distressing character of Russia's transition has many historical parallels, and the United States is confident that restored, free and united Russia will again take a leading place in the world, joining with the other free nations in upholding peace and orderly justice."

'SHINERS EX-CHIEF DEAD.

Cincinnati, Aug. 14.—Officers of the Metal Polishers' International union report the death of Edward J. Lynch, the first president of that organization. At the time of his death he was connected with the Westinghouse Electric Manufacturing company.

Syracuse, N. Y., Aug. 14.—The Remington typewriter company has signed an agreement with the Metal Polishers' union, which includes the Remington works at Ilion, the Smith Premier works at Syracuse and the Flushing works at Flushing, N. Y. Rates will be 90 cents an hour on a piece rate basis and 85 cents for straight day work.

Newark, N. J., Aug. 14.—After a strike that lasted nearly five months, organized metal polishers have won the Mergott strike. Wages will be advanced to $1 an hour, the 48-hour week established, all strikebreakers released and all strikers reinstated. The firm agrees to recognize the polishers' shop committee.

NO "PRIVATE" RAILROADING.

San Francisco, Aug. 14.—The San Francisco Call and Post disagrees with the claim that there is "private" railroading in this country, under the Cummins-Esch bill.

Under the Cummins-Esch law, says this paper, the federal government cannot avoid responsibility for the policies of the roads as to wages, rates and replacement of equipment; about all that is left to private owners is to draw profits. To call this sort of thing private ownership is silly. It is nothing more than an arrangement whereby the evils of private enterprise in public utilities are allowed to continue, while the benefits of public ownership are withheld."

GAS LAW SET ASIDE.

New York, Aug. 14. — Federal Judge Hand has set aside a New York state law which limits the charge by the Consolidated Gas company, operating in this city, to 80 cents a thousand feet. The court's action permits a charge of $1.20.

An interesting part of the proceedings was the company's claim that its property is worth $150,000,000. The court said it is worth $77,000,000, and as the law would only permit of a 3½ per cent return on this valuation it was declared confiscatory.

GET EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Bangor, Me., Aug. 14.—Machinery molders have established a rate of $7.20 for an eight-hour day.

PROFITEERING GROWS

Boston, Aug. 14.—Profiteering is increasing, especially in meats and produce, reports the state commission on necessaries of life.

"During the past few months," says the report, "whether because of the fact that dealers in the necessaries of life are no longer in fear of prosecution by the federal authorities, or whether they feel a certain justification because of the enormous profits made in other lines of business, there has been an increased tendency in this community to profiteer, especially in the meat and produce business."

The cost of living in this state has increased 102.6 per cent since 1913, and wages have advanced, but the worker is not so well off as formerly, because of interrupted employment in many lines. It is stated that salaries and incomes are still behind the advance in prices, but the commission finds consolation in the fact that when people do not have money they do not spend it.

"The people," says the commission, "are adapting themselves to conditions and the increase in cost is being compensated by economies and a general curtailment of expenditures."

WHO ARE COAL GOUGERS?

New York, Aug. 14.—The public can take its choice in the quarrel between coal owners and speculators on who is responsible for present coal prices. The speculators charge the coal owners with taking "unconscionable profits," and the coal owners vow that the speculators are "it" because they have grabbed all the coal cars and are rushing coal to the seaboard for shipment at fancy prices.

While the quarrel rages, the public continues to pay excessive prices.

The interstate commerce commission may block the speculators by its rule that no coal shipment can be reconsigned more than once. Speculators have been diverting shipments in transit several times, putting on higher prices each time.

DON'T INSURE WORKERS.

New York, Aug. 14.—The failure of employers in this state to insure workers has aroused the New York industrial commission and employers are threatened with prosecution. It is stated that the employers' neglect results in almost 1,000 cases a year where awards to widows and children of workers killed and to workers maimed and injured in industrial accidents have to be sent to counsel for collection. Many of these awards are uncollectable because the employer is financially irresponsible and the compensation law, which the workers have relied on for protection, is ineffective in these cases.

HINT TO "HIGH BROWS."

Washington, Aug. 14.—In the current issue of American Federationist, President Gompers drops this hint to "industrial unrest solvers:"

"Those who undertake to construct statements of principles and the creation of programs for the improvement of industrial conditions must some day come to realize that the object can not be achieved by the writing of essays and that industrial wrongs can not be removed without offending those who are engaged in the perpetuation of such wrongs or without dislodging them from the autocratic position they seek to maintain."

GAINS IN COLUMBUS.

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 14.—Organized sheet metal workers have raised wages 20 cents an hour, the new rate being 90 cents. Composition roofers have advanced rates from 60 cents an hour to 80 cents.

DREDGE MEN ARE OUT.

Stockton, Cal., Aug. 14.—Dredgmen employed by local concerns on reclamation projects are striking for wages that will equal those paid by other dredging concerns in the state.

ANY PLAN BUT UNIONS FAVORED BY EMPLOYER

Chicago, Aug. 14.—"Last week," says Editor Bland of the Union Leader, "the newspapers devoted columns of space to the International Harvester company's announcement of a profit-sharing plan—60 per cent to the employes and 40 per cent to the company—on paper, of course, but the newspapers failed to relate the details of this wonderful plan, so that discerning readers might be able to satisfy themselves whether this 60-40 arrangement is a reality or whether the 60 per cent is actually mulcted from the employes in belated wage increases or other ways for which the so-called profit-sharing institutions are noted."

Attention is called to the company's works council plan which was recently launched with shouts of approval by the public press.

"When all the facts surrounding the works council plan were ascertained and the plan was analyzed," says Editor Bland, "it was found to be the same old lemon for the workers, all one-sided, and wholly in control of the company.

"The national industrial conference board, composed of a score of manufacturers' associations, recently conducted a nation-wide investigation of profit-sharing, wage bonuses, stock selling to employes and other plans, and in its report said this:

"'Profit-sharing is no panacea. It is no solution of the wage problem.' The report advised employers that efforts along this line would not result in establishing permanent satisfactory relations with the workers and that their efforts might better be turned in other directions.

"Out at the harvester works an employe is free in one respect, and one only. He is free to quit his job. But if he shows any marked activity in agitating a change of the conditions fixed for him by the company, he may be denied this one opportunity. If the boss gets to him first he may be relieved of the necessity of quitting. In that case he is separated from his job and the profits from his labor stay with the company."

WOOD WORKERS STICK.

Evansville, Ind., Aug. 14.—The heroic stand of furniture workers in this city for better conditions is attracting wide attention. These employes have been on strike for 14 weeks, and despite injunctions and every other effort ingenious and desperate employers can devise, their ranks are solid.

The fight is enlivened by frequent statements that "the mills will reopen." Much publicity is indulged in, personal letters are forwarded to strikers and statements in the public press call on the strikers to again labor. But all in vain. The furniture workers are sticking, and they declare they will continue to stick until justice is assured.

BIG TOBACCO PROFITS.

New York, Aug. 14.—The financial report of the American tobacco company shows prosperous times for this concern and it will increase its class B common stock from $50,000,000 to $100,000,000. As compared with the same period last year, the volume of business from the first of the present year to July 1 increased $12,500,000, or more than 20 per cent.

This does not seem unusual in these billion dollar days, according to President Hill of the company. He says the company's business and earnings "are in a very satisfactory condition."

CULINARY WORKERS GAIN.

Cleveland, Aug. 14.—Hotel and restaurant employes have raised wages 40 per cent. The effect of trade unionism on wages as a whole is again illustrated in this case. Non-union restaurants and hotels are beginning to raise wages and these employes benefit without any effort on their part.

STATE HIGH OFFICIAL IN PICAYUNISH WORK

Charleston, W. Va., Aug. 14.—The governor of a great state circulating trade unions with an attack on trade union officials is the spectacle presented by Gov. Cornwall.

The governor's target is officials of district No. 17, United Mine Workers, who have led the fight against private armies and coal owners' gun men rule in West Virginia, which the governor fails to object to.

The governor's plan to drive a wedge between the miners and their executives has failed. Many locals have forwarded sizzling resolutions to the governor's office, and that official is told that if he devoted a fraction of his time used against unionists to ridding the state of coal owners' gun men, law would again be re-established in West Virginia.

The Donwood Miners' union expressed surprise that "a man holding the position of chief executive of the state" would stoop to such methods.

"We desire to state to you," said these miners, "that the membership of this local union stands squarely behind the official records of President Keeney, Vice President Petry, Secretary-Treasurer Mooney and the executive board of district No. 17."

The coal diggers told the governor that every effort of these officials "meets with our approval, and we have the fullest confidence in their ability."

"In conclusion, we desire to say that no attempt to discredit the officials of our organization will succeed, as we know something of the hardships endured by President Keeney and Secretary Mooney in their efforts to relieve ourselves, our wives and our children for many years."

UNIONIST IS GOVERNOR.

Mexico City, Aug. 14.—Treasurer Gasca of the Mexico City federation of labor has been appointed governor of the federal district by President de la Huerta. The federal district includes the republic's capital.

The appointment to this important post was opposed by employers on the ground that "being a labor man, Gasca's sympathies would always be with the workers." The official organ of the federation of labor replies that the unionist "was appointed to that post to see that justice is done where justice is due, and we are sure that the workers will be pleased to see that Governor Gasca adheres to that principle."

FUR WORKERS OUT.

New York, Aug. 14. — Officers of the International Fur Workers' union report that Boston fur workers are engaged in a non-union shop fight, caused by the abrogation of a contract by employers. In New York employers have announced the same policy. In Philadelphia the employers started a non-union shop fight, but they have been defeated. Fur workers' officials declare that Philadelphia undoubtedly acted on a hint from New York employers when they locked out their fur workers. The Philadelphia move was answered by the fur workers who called a strike of all members. To date a score of fur houses have reached an agreement with the union.

GUN MAN JAILED.

Union, W. Va., Aug. 14.—Sam Crews, a Baldwin-Feltz detective, has been found guilty of murder in the first degree and sentenced to 15 years in the penitentiary. Three years ago he killed Thomas Baldwin, a member of the Mine Workers' union at Raleigh, this state. Crews disappeared but was later discovered in Oklahoma by Lawrence Dwyer, executive board member of district No. 17, United Mine Workers.

BAKERS RAISE WAGES.

Quincy, Ill., Aug. 14.—With the aid of organized labor, bakers in this city have advanced wages 20 per cent.

There Are Only Two Systems--"Union" and "Non-Union"

Washington, Aug. 14. — In an article printed in the American Federationist, current issue, entitled "The Union Shop and Its Antithesis," President Gompers urges the use of proper terms in discussing the union and the non-union shop and records vigorous protest against anti-trade unionists attempting to conceal their opposition to collective bargaining by claiming they operate "open shop."

"An 'open' shop is a non-union shop where the fiction is kept alive that union men may work there, but are not permitted to do so," says President Gompers.

"The synonyms for 'union' shop and 'non-union' shop respectively are 'democracy' and 'autocracy.' In the union shop the workers are free men. They have the right of organizing in trade unions and to bargain collectively with their employers through representatives of their own chosing. Employes in the non-union shops are like cogs in a machine. They have nothing to say as to the conditions under which they will work, but must accept any wages, hours and working conditions that may be fixed arbitrarily by the employer.

"A non-union man who accepts employment in a union shop has the privilege of joining the union which has a voice in determining with employers the wages, hours and conditions of work. He is given time in which to make application, if he so desires.

"No union man, if known, is permitted by the employers to work in a non-union shop.

"Most relentless propaganda has been used to discredit the union shop and to hold up to the public the great benefits of the non-union shop. No more malicious misrepresentation of a desirable condition in industry ever was launched. It began in the early 1900's when a number of associations were formed to destroy the trade union movement. Lawyers are employed to travel about the country delivering addresses, all of which were confined to denunciation of labor organizations. The most venomous charges were made against them.

"Judges were influenced by this propaganda to decide that the union shop was illegal. The opinions of these judges contained most bitter statements against the workers who had had the temerity to organize. They were charged with being non-progressive, obstacles to the welfare of the country, and un-American. These opinions were heralded through the newspapers as the turning point from which the trade unions would gradually disintegrate. Employers' associations, citizens' alliances and organizations of many other names, composed of employers . . .

"The reason was purely selfish. The antagonists of labor believed that if they could destroy the trade union movement, wages would be reduced to a low standard; that it would not be necessary for them to safeguard the health of their employes or build plants in which the machinery was so protected that it was of less danger of injury to the workers.

"An employer who refuses to employ a union man will say: 'I do not discriminate against union and non-union men. I conduct an 'open' shop, that is, those who apply for work will be given employment when they are needed. This is a shop where men are free.'

"But when a workman applies for employment he is asked a number of questions. In many instances he has to fill out a questionnaire, which asks his entire history from the cradle to the present time, and one of the most important queries is, 'Are you a member of any union?' If the man answers this question in the affirmative he is not employed. He is told that his name will be placed on file and he will be notified when there is work for him.

"But he is never notified. Instead, . . . ployers or their agents, kept up a perpetual criticism of labor. . . . his name is sent to other manufacturers to prevent the possibility of him being employed elsewhere.

"This so-called 'open shop' is the disintegrating factor that leads to the non-union shop; in other words, the shop which is closed to the union man, no matter from whence he hails, or what his skill and competency.

"The term 'closed shop' was originated about 1903. It was coined by the enemies of trade unions for a purpose. That purpose was and continues to be to divert attention from the defensive action of union men.

"The term 'closed shop' is a false designation of the union shop. Those who are hostile to labor cunningly employ the term 'closed shop' for a union shop because of the general antipathy which is ordinarily felt toward anything being closed, and with the specious plea that the so-called 'open shop' must necessarily afford the opportunity for freedom.

"As a matter of fact, the union shop is open to all workmen who perform their duty, and they participate in the benefits and advantages of the improved conditions which a union shop affords. The union shop also implies duties and responsibilities. This is incident to and the corollary of all human institutions.

"What the trade unionists call for is the union shop. Those who speak of it as a 'closed shop' are enemies of labor, who, by distorting the facts, seek to discredit the trade union movement."

MAY SIGN UNION CONTRACT.

Seattle, Aug. 14.—Superior Court Judge Ronald has set aside a temporary injunction issued by Superior Judge Everett Smith restraining two bakery employers from signing an agreement with the Bakers' union.

One of the employers, Brenner, signed an agreement with other bakery employers that if a master baker recognized the union he would forfeit $100. Later Brenner sold his business to Horn, and the latter signed with the union. The other employers insisted that the sale was fictitious and they demanded $100.

In setting aside the injunction Judge Ronald said that if the other employers believed they suffered damages they could sue but they could not get an injunction forbidding Brenner and Horn from maintaining union conditions or conducting a union shop.

At the trial Brenner acknowledged he signed the agreement but insisted that coercion was used.

"They told me," he said, "that I might need yeast and fail to get it, that I might need flour and fail to get it, and that I might go to the bank for money and fail to get it."

HIGH PRICES; NO HOUSES.

Washington, Aug. 14.—During the latter part of last year and the early months of this year lumber prices in the United States increased more sharply and to far higher points than were ever known before, says the forest service of the department of agriculture.

Present prices, though somewhat lower, are still excessive and yield "profits unjustified by costs," it is stated.

Lumber prices do not tell the whole story, says the report. The depletion of the lumber supply, the failure to plant trees, and forest fires are also factors. Added to these are the difficulty in securing material, all of which makes the construction of a home at the present time highly uncertain and a speculative venture that is out of reach of large numbers of people.

It is stated that in 1919 only 70,000 houses were built when 500,000 were required to meet the demand.

MORE PEOPLE IN CITIES.

Washington, Aug. 14.—For the first time in the history of the United States the 1920 census will show that more people live in the cities and towns than in the rural territories. Census officials state that the drift to the cities and towns has been rapid during the past 30 years, and that the cities have finally passed the farms.

The population of the cities does not grow of itself as rapidly as that of the rural territory. The proportionate number of marriages in the urban communities is smaller than in the country, and city families, as a rule, are not as large as those in the country. The greater part of the urban gains ordinarily have come from alien immigration and migration from rural territory.

NEARING 25,000 MARK.

Indianapolis, Aug. 14.—The membership of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders is nearing the 25,000 mark. The last report placed the figure at 24,496.

Kalamazoo, Mich., Aug. 14.—Wages have been raised $9 a week by Bookbinders' union No. 59.

Trenton, N. J., Aug. 14.—Bookbinders' union No. 94 has advanced wages $9.60 a week for men and $5 for women.

CARPENTERS RAISE WAGES.

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 14.—After a month's strike organized carpenters won their demand for higher wages. Former rates of $1 an hour are now $1.25.

Faribault, Minn., Aug. 14.—Carpenters in this city have forced an abandonment of the 10-hour day. The work day is now nine hours. Wages are advanced from 60 cents an hour to 80 cents.

RECORD TEXTILE PROFITS.

Fall River, Mass., Aug. 14.—Stockholders in local textile plants have received a total of $3,632,375 in dividends during the past quarter, according to figures just published. This is an average of more than 10 per cent on the entire capitalization, and is said to establish a new high mark in the industry here.

RUBBER PROFITS JUMP.

New York, Aug. 14.—Profits of United States rubber company for the first six months of this year were $2,559,690 larger than during the same period in 1919. Net sales were $129,524,986 in the last six months, an increase of more than $30,000,000 over the corresponding period last year.

OIL WORKERS FEDERATE.

Port Arthur, Texas, Aug. 14.—At a meeting in this city organized oil workers of south Texas and Louisiana formed a district council. The purpose is to secure unity of action in establishing working conditions.

WANT NON-UNION SHOPS.

Cleveland, Aug. 14.—The Merchant Tailors' association has joined the low wage, individual bargaining crowd and declares for the non-union shop.

WHY CAR MEN STRUCK.

Denver, Aug. 14.—The recent street car strike, followed by rioting that resulted in the death of several persons, can be directly traced to the policy of Denver tramway company, its imported gun men, the inflammatory propaganda of the local press and to the citizens' alliance and its non-union shop influences.

The average wage of the street car men was 56 cents an hour, and in refusing increases the company rejected every offer of compromise or arbitration. In a statement issued by the executive board of the Street Car Men's union, the workers said:

"In order to prevent a strike we—

"Offered to arbitrate every issue now. Isn't arbitration a fair way to settle industrial disputes? The tramway turned that down.

"Offered to make a working agreement now and arbitrate the wage question next October after the court issues are decided. The tramway turned that down.

"We offered to make a working agreement now and let other matters remain in abeyance. The tramway turned that down.

"We offered to submit every issue to Horace Hawkins, attorney for the city and opposed to us in the present lawsuit. The tramway turned that down.

"What else was left to us?"

Organized workers resent the claim that they were connected with the mob. In a public speech just before the rioting the president of the Denver trades and labor assembly said:

"Don't fall into the trap set by the Tramway company. They want you to start violence, but don't do what they want you to do."

HOW TO GET FARM LABOR.

Phoenix, Aris., Aug. 14.—The Arizona Labor Journal suggests that if the Arizona cotton growers' association will insist upon their members giving Mexican laborers fair housing and sanitary conditions, and a fair rate of pay, that the organizers in charge of the 11 federal labor unions in the Salt river valley will be able to supply the farmers with all of the labor necessary to grow and harvest the cotton crop of 1920.

If the cotton association, says this paper, will devote the money they are spending for agents in Mexico and gunmen in the cotton fields to paying the men for their toil and give them proper living conditions, they will be able to get all the labor reasonably necessary to produce and harvest their cotton crop.

STATE UNIONS TO MEET.

La Grande, Ore., Aug. 14.—The annual convention of the Oregon state federation of labor will be held here starting September 13. One of the questions to be considered is the hospital clause of the compensation law. Under this section injured workers must pay for hospital service, but can have no voice in the hospital arrangements, and they must accept physicians of others' chosing.

Tucson, Ariz., Aug. 14.—The state federation of labor will hold its ninth annual convention in this city, beginning Monday, October 4.

INDORSE CO-OP. THEORY

Worcester, Mass., Aug. 14.—The central labor union has indorsed the co-operative theory.

The co-op movement is spreading throughout New England, and in many sections where this system was unknown, a few years ago, prosperous stores are now in operation.

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 14. — The co-operative store here does an average daily business of over $1,100. Co-ops. are arranging to start a second store.

COOPERS RAISE WAGES.

Houston, Texas, Aug. 14.—After a two-weeks' strike Coopers' union No. 90 established its new rate of 90 cents an hour.

Chicago, Aug. 14. — Organized coopers in this city are on strike in the oil barrel shops, and ask all workers in this industry to give Chicago a wide berth, until the new scale of $1 an hour is accepted by employers.

WOMEN'S WAGES GO UP.

Fort Smith, Ark., Aug. 14.—A state board has set the weekly wage of experienced female clerks in this city at $12.25, and inexperienced female clerks at $11. The new rates become effective September 1. It was shown that the average weekly wage of these women is $7.50.

MEXICAN STRIKE ENDS.

Mexico City, Aug. 14.—On a promise by President de la Huerta that a speedy and just settlement of their demands would be made, 75,000 workers on strike throughout the republic have returned to work. The strikers' demands include wage increases that range from 50 to 100 per cent.

TYPOS TO AGITATE.

Dallas, Texas, Aug. 14.—The Typographical union has voted in favor of an agitation against the non-union shop campaign in this section of Texas, and has appropriated $500 for a starter. The union will send speakers into country precincts to talk to farmers.